

**STUDENTS' ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING
READING PASSAGE QUESTIONS AT THE EIGHTH GRADE
OF SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 5 SURAKARTA
IN 2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR**



RESEARCH PAPER

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department

by
NURUL SYAMSIAH
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**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
2014**

APPROVAL

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TESTIMONY

Here, I testify that in this research paper there is no cheating or plagiarism from the previous research paper or the other sources which is aiming to obtain the bachelor degree, unless the ideas or opinions that have been published by the other writers that are written in reference or bibliography.

Later, if there is evidence that this research paper is not original, I am willing to be fully responsible.

Surakarta, July 2014

The writer



NURUL SYAMSI AH

A320100004

MOTTO

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

(Mahatma Gandhi)

"You cannot create experience. You must undergo it."

(Albert Camus)

"Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend."

(Albert Camus)

"Go find something that you haven't done before. Don't do the same thing over and over again."

(Mike Shinoda)

"I will survive. I will revive. I won't surrender. I stay alive."

(Bondan Prakoso)

"What makes you success is not your talk, but your real work."

(The Writer)

DEDICATION

This research paper is respectfully dedicated to:

My dearest father, Bapak Suyitno,

My dearest mother, Ibu Suratmi,

My dearest younger brother, Mahfud Syaiful Arifin,

All of my big family,

All of my best friends,

Everyone whom I love and those who love me.

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Finally, the writer realizes that this research paper is far from being perfect. Therefore, suggestions or criticisms are needed to make this research paper better. The writer hopes that this research paper could be beneficial to the reader. *Aamiin.*

Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb.

Surakarta, July 2014

The Writer

NURUL SYAMSI AH

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SUMMARY

Nurul Syamsiah. A320100004. STUDENTS' ABILITY IN UNDERSTANDING READING PASSAGE QUESTIONS AT THE EIGHTH GRADE OF SMP MUHAMMADIYAH 5 SURAKARTA IN 2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR. Research Paper. Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. 2014.

The objectives of this research are to describe (1) the students' ability in understanding reading passage questions at the eighth grade of SMP Muhammadiyah 5 Surakarta in 2013/2014 academic year, (2) the most difficult question in understanding reading passage questions, and (3) the students' strategies in understanding reading passage questions.

This research belongs to descriptive research. The data of this research are the students' test result, verbatim of interview, and field notes of observation, which are collected through observation, interview, and test. The data are analyzed in two ways, quantitatively and qualitatively, by using a simple descriptive statistic analysis and using Miles & Huberman's interactive model of data analysis technique which consists of data collection, data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusion or verification. The data credibility of this research is checked by using triangulation of source and triangulation of technique.

The result of this research showed that (1) the students' ability in understanding reading passage questions at the eighth grade of SMP Muhammadiyah 5 Surakarta in 2013/2014 academic year is in a Fair level, because the percentage indicates in 62.29%; (2) the most difficult question in understanding reading passage questions according to the eighth grade of SMP Muhammadiyah 5 Surakarta in 2013/2014 academic year is the Indirectly Answered Questions; (3) in understanding reading passage questions at the eighth grade of SMP Muhammadiyah 5 Surakarta in 2013/2014 academic year, the students did not use a certain strategy because they did not know the kinds of strategy in answering the reading passage questions.

Keywords: reading passage questions, most difficult question, students' ability, students' strategies.